

VOTE SHEET

OCTOBER 7, 1997

RE: DOCKET NO. 960234-WS - Investigation of rates of Gulf Utility Company in Lee County for possible overearnings.

DOCKET NO. 960329-WS - Application for increase in rates and service availability charges in Lee County by Gulf Utility Company.

Issue 1: Should Gulf's Request for Administrative Notice be granted?
Recommendation: No.

DEFERRED

<u>Issue 2</u>: Should the Commission reconsider Order No. PSC-97-0847-FOF-WS based on Gulf's assertion that the order violates the "end result doctrine"?

<u>Recommendation</u>: No, the Commission should not reconsider Order No. PSC-97-0847-FOF-WS based on Gulf's assertion that it violates the "end result doctrine."

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: DS CL

COMMISSIONERS' SIGNATURES

MAJORITY	DISSENTING	
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REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

Defined to 10/21/97

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

1-0323 OCT-85

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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<u>Issue 3:</u> If the Commission approves Gulf's Motion for Reconsideration, should it authorize Gulf to collect the difference between its interim and final rates in the form of a surcharge from those customers who received service during the interim period?

Recommendation: No.

<u>Issue 4</u>: Should the Commission reconsider its decision to exclude the one million gallon reject holding tank for the Corkscrew Water Treatment Plant from rate base?

Recommendation: No.

<u>Issue 5</u>: Should the Commission reconsider its decision to use 1995 flows in lieu of 1996 flows when calculating used and useful percentages for the water and wastewater treatment plants?

Recommendation: No.

<u>Issue 6</u>: Should the Commission reconsider its calculation of non-used and useful investment in wastewater plants?

<u>Recommendation</u>: No.

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<u>Issue 7</u>: Should the Commission reconsider its decision to impute CIAC on the margin reserve for the wastewater operations?

<u>Recommendation</u>: No. The Commission did not make an error of fact or law on the imputation of CIAC on the margin reserve. However, the Final Order on page 33 should be corrected to state that the gross amount of CIAC collected on the margin reserve should be \$594,000, not \$1,594,000. This typographical error does not change the end result of the imputation of CIAC on margin reserve.

<u>Issue 8</u>: Was there an issue that addressed the valuation date of CIAC and, if so, should the Commission reconsider its decision?

<u>Recommendation</u>: No, there was no issue identified in the case that dealt with the valuation date of CIAC. Regardless, the Commission should not reconsider its decision in the Final Order.

<u>Issue 9</u>: Should the Commission reconsider its decision to disallow an annual customer satisfaction survey?

<u>Recommendation</u>: No, the Commission should not reconsider its decision. The Commission did not make a mistake of fact or law when it determined that an annual survey is not necessary and the same results could be achieved by including a questionnaire in the monthly bill.

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Issue 10: Should the Commission consider inclusion of added labor and chemical costs for the water operations that were not included in the utility's minimum filing requirements (MFRs)?

Recommendation: No, the Commission should not consider these costs, because the utility did not ask for recovery of such costs in the MFRs.

<u>Issue 11</u>: Should the Commission reconsider its decision to reallocate the salaries of Gulf's employees that also provide services for the Caloosa Group?

<u>Recommendation</u>: No. The Commission relied on competent substantial evidence in the record to reallocate these common salaries and the utility has not shown that the Commission made any errors of fact or law.

<u>Issue 12</u>: Should the escrow funds or any portion of the escrow funds be released as requested in the utility's Motion to Release Escrow Funds? <u>Recommendation</u>: Yes. Escrow funds in the amount of \$104,000 should be released from the utility's escrow account.

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Issue 13: Should the docket be closed?

Recommendation: Yes. This docket should be closed after the time for filing an appeal has run, upon staff's verification that the utility has completed the required refunds with interest and the proper revised tariff sheets and customer notice have been filed by the utility and approved by staff. Further, the utility's escrow account can be closed upon staff's verification that the refund has been completed.

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